



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 27 December 2007

Current Nationwide



[For info click here](#)

- WSMV 4 in Nashville reports that water found in old uranium-processing equipment at the K-25 site created a nuclear safety scare earlier this month and temporarily halted work to decommission the World War II-era facility. The water was a concern because it can serve as a moderator for nuclear reactions, and the old process systems contain deposits of enriched uranium – a material capable of nuclear fission under certain circumstances. (See item [5](#))
- According to CommwebNews.com, the profile of computer hackers is changing. Hackers are no longer loners; rather they have their own community and social networks, and the ability to share tactics and methods. Moreover, more women and girls are becoming involved in hacking. One explanation for the changes may be that malicious hacking in the name of nationalism is tolerated, or even encouraged, in some countries. (See item [22](#))

### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump**

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**Sustenance and Health:** [Agriculture and Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

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## **Energy Sector**

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels:** Physical: **ELEVATED**, Cyber: **ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *December 26, Journal News* – (New York) **NYSEG: 770 customers without power in Southeast, Brewster.** A power failure in Brewster, New York, darkened 770 NYSEG customers Wednesday, including traffic lights, along Route 6, Route 22, and Interstate 684 this morning. The outage was reported around 6:30 a.m., according to the Putnam County Sheriff's Department. About 770 customers in Southeast are affected, said a NYSEG spokesman. The outage is related to the windstorm that cut power to thousands

of NYSEG customers in Putnam and northern Westchester counties earlier this week, he said, adding that power could be restored by 2 p.m. Wednesday.

Source:

<http://www.nyjournalnews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071226/NEWS01/712260367>

2. *December 26, Bloomberg* – (International) **Oil rises after report Turkey attacked Kurdish rebels in Iraq.** Supply concerns, political conflict between Turkey and Kurdish rebels, and a pipeline fire in Nigeria pushed the price of oil up for the third session in a row. Crude oil for February delivery gained as much as 67 cents, or 0.7 percent, to \$94.80 a barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. There is concern that shipments from Iraq may be disrupted after the Turkish military attacked bases of Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq. Turkish jets bombed eight sites in northern Iraq today where the military suspected Kurdish rebels were setting up camp, the military said in a statement on its Web site. Iraq exports crude oil through its northern pipeline to Turkey. The Turkish Prime Minister said yesterday attacks on bases of the Kurdistan Workers Party, or PKK, in Iraq would continue.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=a2O29O9F4AAU&refer=home>

3. *December 25, Associated Press* – (California) **Heavy winds cut power to 10,000 in Los Angeles.** Powerful wind gusts knocked down power lines and blew several transformers Monday, causing outages to nearly 10,000 homes and businesses in Los Angeles. The National Weather Service said Santa Ana winds gusted as high as 94 mph in the mountains north of the city. The wind combined with low humidity prompted forecasters to issue a “red flag” warning, indicating conditions conducive to brush fires through Tuesday evening. A Department of Water and Power spokeswoman said about 9,900 utility customers were without power.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,318212,00.html>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

Nothing to report.

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

4. *December 25, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Army looks to SC nuke site for training.** The Army wants to train light infantry units in battle exercises that may include Army, Navy, and Air Force Special Operations Forces on the huge tract of federal land that comprises the Savannah River nuclear complex in the southwestern portion of the state. The plan was announced last month by the National Environmental Protection Act compliance officer at the Savannah River site. The federal government is

required by law to announce proposed changes in its land use and seek public comment. The exercises could involve anywhere from a handful of troops to 4,000 soldiers from combat teams, the announcement said. The Savannah River complex is located along 14 miles of the Savannah River about 10 miles southeast of Augusta, Georgia. Its land was purchased in the 1950s as the government cleared out small communities to make way for five nuclear reactors and sites for building components for nuclear warheads. With the end of the Cold War, the facility sharply reduced its work force and shut down the reactors. Its mission has switched to transforming old weapons-grade plutonium into nuclear fuel. Before the new training could begin, an environmental assessment will be conducted and the Energy Department will evaluate whether to approve the Army's request. The training would not begin before early 2009.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20071225/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/military\\_training;\\_ylt=Askq1qN52ZnbtrffXKEUJ5G2ocA](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20071225/ap_on_re_us/military_training;_ylt=Askq1qN52ZnbtrffXKEUJ5G2ocA)

5. *December 24, WSMV 4 Nashville* – (Tennessee) **Water discovery creates nuclear safety scare.** Water found in old uranium-processing equipment at the K-25 site created a nuclear safety scare earlier this month and temporarily halted work in part of the World War II-era facility, officials said. About 800 people are working on decommissioning the gigantic building, which was used to enrich uranium for atomic bombs and nuclear reactor fuel. The water was a concern because it can serve as a moderator for nuclear reactions, and the old process systems contain deposits of enriched uranium -- a material capable of nuclear fission under certain circumstances. The Department of Energy's environmental cleanup chief said work was suspended December 3 and about 250 people working in the east wing of the mile-long, U-shaped building were temporarily assigned to other tasks while the situation was investigated. The decommissioning and demolishing of K-25 is running a couple of years behind schedule, but the DOE environmental cleanup chief said the latest issue should not have any lasting impact on the schedule.

Source: <http://www.wsmv.com/news/14918076/detail.html?rss=nash&psp=news>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

6. *December 26, Business Journal of Milwaukee* – (Wisconsin) **Oshkosh Truck gets \$179M defense order.** Oshkosh Truck Corp. has been awarded a contract for the production of heavy mobility truck systems for the U.S. Army valued at \$179.3 million. The U.S. Department of Defense said December 21 that the work will be performed in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and is expected to be completed by December 31, 2008. The Defense Department said that Oshkosh Truck was the only firm solicited by the Tank Automotive and Armaments Command, in Warren, Michigan, for the work.  
Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/stories/2007/12/24/daily5.html>
7. *December 26, Arkansas Democrat Gazette* – (Arkansas) **Air Force putting fewer cargo planes in line for revamp.** The U. S. Air Force is downsizing its plan to replace the avionics in older C-130 Hercules cargo planes, a move that will only partially upgrade

the fleet but allows the program to finally move forward after six years of contract disputes and rising costs. The upgraded plane is called a C-130 AMP. The planes are Hmodel C-130s built in the 1980s and early 1990s that have their flight decks gutted and then equipped with entirely new avionics — digital flight controls and navigation systems — leaving the existing engines and airframe intact. The 189th Airlift Wing of the Arkansas National Guard has been waiting for the AMP since 2001, when the Air Force decided the wing at Little Rock Air Force Base would develop and conduct all Air Force training on the new system. Six years ago, 519 planes were scheduled for the AMP upgrade — every C-130 except the new J-model which already has the technology. Now, only 366 are eligible for the AMP upgrade as the oldest of the Hercules models are retiring because of structural concerns. Of those, only 222 are tagged for upgrades because of cost overruns of more than 150 percent over the program's initial \$ 4 billion cost estimate in 2001.

Source: <http://www.nwanews.com/adg/News/211785/>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

8. *December 26, KOCO 5 Oklahoma City* – (Oklahoma) **Post-holiday shoppers warned about ATM scam.** Tulsa police are warning residents to take a close look when using ATM machines after a device to steal bank account information was found on one ATM. The device is attached above the ATM keypad and includes a small camera to record the user's personal identification number and a false card reader to get the card number. The scammers can then use the information to create counterfeit ATM cards. Police said the devices have been found in other parts of the country but this is the first in Oklahoma. Banks have been notified about the scam, officials said.

Source: <http://www.koco.com/news/14924136/detail.html>

9. *December 26, Citizen of Laconia* – (New Hampshire) **New law helps ID theft victims fight back.** HB227 will go into effect in New Hampshire at the start of the new year to help victims of identity theft fight back. The bill puts a civil statute on the books, allowing victims of identity theft to seek monetary relief from the criminal offender. Before the new statute there was no method for victims to recover their financial losses from the perpetrator of such a crime. According to the United States Postal Inspection Service, the lead federal law enforcement agency fighting this form of crime, identity theft is America's fastest growing crime. Last year alone, the Postal Inspection Service recorded 9.9 million Americans falling victim to this crime.

Source:

<http://www.citizen.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20071226/GJNEWS02/189605710/-1/CITNEWS>

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## **Transportation Sector**

10. *December 26, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **Boston's Big Dig, the nation's**

**costliest highway project, finally complete.** At the end of the year, Boston will quietly mark the end the Big Dig, the nation's most complex and costliest highway project. During the course of work, the project's cost rose from \$2.6 billion to \$14.8 billion. Civil and criminal cases stemming from the July 2006 tunnel ceiling collapse continue, though on Monday one family announced a \$6 million settlement with Powers Fasteners, the company that manufactured the epoxy blamed by investigators for the accident. Lawsuits are pending against other Big Dig contractors, and Powers Fasteners still faces a manslaughter indictment. By some measures, the project has been successful. A study by the Turnpike Authority found the Big Dig cut the average trip through Boston from 19.5 minutes to 2.8 minutes.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,318387,00.html>

11. *December 25, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Plane diverted to Miami because of unruly passenger.** A coach passenger who refused to leave a first class seat caused an American Airlines flight to make a diverted landing at Miami International Airport. Airport officials say flight 838 left Miami for Jamaica at 6:38 p.m. Tuesday, but the plane returned to Miami about 30 minutes after take off. An airline spokeswoman says a flight attendant asked to see the boarding pass of a passenger seated in first class. The coach passenger refused to return to his assigned seat, so the plane returned to Miami. No charges were filed, but the passenger did not reboard the flight.

Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/775/story/356981.html>

12. *December 25, Fox News* – (National) **Thousands of Christmas travelers affected after United cancels nearly 250 flights.** Thousands of holiday air travelers who anticipated heading back to work Wednesday were instead stuck in airports across the country on Christmas Day after United Airlines cancelled hundreds of flights for a second straight day due to a weekend snowstorm at its Chicago hub. By midday Tuesday, United, the nation's number two carrier, had cancelled nearly 250 flights, close to 20 percent of its total flights globally, according to FlightStats.com. This came after the Chicago-based carrier wiped nearly 150 flights off its board on Monday following a winter storm that paralyzed Chicago's O'Hare International Airport on Sunday. By canceling flights Sunday and Monday, many of United's flight crews and planes were not in position to keep Tuesday's schedule. United decided to cancel 244 flights on Tuesday, hoping to get its schedule back on track for Wednesday's expected heavy passenger load, a spokeswoman told the Chicago Tribune.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,318269,00.html>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

13. *December 26, WDAF 4 Kansas City* – (Kansas) **Police investigate bomb threat at Lenexa post office.** Lenexa Police investigated a report of an explosive device in a post office. Police said a white male walked into the post office, demanded money, and said he had a bomb. A few minutes later, the suspect turned himself in at the Lenexa Police Station across the street. Investigators and bomb-sniffing dogs are searching the man's vehicle and the post office. The police station, city hall, and the post office were locked

down.

Source:

<http://www.myfoxkc.com/myfox/pages/Home/Detail?contentId=5317541&version=3&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=PSTY&pageId=1.1.1>

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

14. *December 26, Mount Airy News* – (North Carolina) **Agriculture official troubled by drought losses.** “Significant” moisture is needed in the coming months to avoid a potential crisis situation with pasture lands and hay fields and a related impact on livestock producers, according to the director of the Surry County Cooperative Extension Service. This year, hay production amounted to only about 40 percent of its normal output due to a devastating freeze last Easter followed by the drought. The problem could only increase if pastures and hay fields that already are suffering do not receive sufficient moisture to allow them to recover for next year’s crop. The drought cost North Carolina’s agricultural economy \$573 million in 2007, according to a December 17 report from the state agriculture commissioner. The state total did not reflect the livestock, poultry, and dairy segments, which also have been hurt by the weather. Soybeans crops and local vineyards have been particularly hard hit by the drought.

Source: [http://www.mtairynews.com/articles/2007/12/26/news/local\\_news/local01.txt](http://www.mtairynews.com/articles/2007/12/26/news/local_news/local01.txt)

15. *December 24, Reuters* – (National) **Beef from Safeway may have had salmonella.** The Agriculture Department said fresh ground beef products contaminated with multi-drug resistant Salmonella may have been ground and later sold at Safeway Inc. stores in five states. USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service said the products were sold at supermarket chain Safeway Inc. in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, and New Mexico between September 19 and November 5, 2007. FSIS said the alert was issued after epidemiological investigations and a study conducted by the California Department of Public Health, Arizona Department of Health Services, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These health agencies determined there was a connection between the ground beef products and 38 illnesses reported in the five states.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20071224/us\\_nm/beef\\_safeway\\_dc;\\_ylt=Ag5KyGaR\\_CxY0oY4aZm.1EgWIr0F](http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20071224/us_nm/beef_safeway_dc;_ylt=Ag5KyGaR_CxY0oY4aZm.1EgWIr0F)

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## **Water Sector**

16. *December 26, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Lawmakers mull water rights municipalities, farmers and ranchers.** In Utah, HB51 would give municipalities and public water suppliers the ability to keep unused water rights for up to three decades. Doing so would raise the ire of farmers and ranchers, who have to fight to keep their unused water rights every five years. Under current law, if any water right has not been



tapped for five years, it must be forfeited and put to good use. Those holding such rights, whether cities, districts, or individuals, can generally keep them if they periodically apply to the state water engineer. City officials and water suppliers want to hold on to those rights for at least 30 years. That way, they can plan for future growth without taking a chance that their five-year applications could be denied. In the proposed bill, farmers would be required to reapply more often -- every seven years. The deputy state water engineer worries HB51 would give cities and regional water suppliers a license to hoard water for developments that might never materialize. "This legislation," he said, "suggests grabbing all the water you can get and then waiting to see what happens."

Source: [http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci\\_7809562](http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_7809562)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

17. *December 25, Reuters* – (National) **Worms infect more poor Americans than thought.** Recent studies show many of the poorest Americans carry some of the same parasitic infections that affect the poor in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, said a tropical disease expert at George Washington University and editor-in-chief of the Public Library of Science journal PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases. Roundworms may infect close to a quarter of inner city black children, tapeworms are the leading cause of seizures among U.S. Hispanics, and other parasitic diseases associated with poor countries are also affecting Americans, the expert said on Tuesday. He noted a recent study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, presented in November, which found that almost 14 percent of the U.S. population is infected with Toxocara roundworms, which dogs and cats can pass to people. He said up to 2,000 new cases of neurological disease caused by tapeworms are diagnosed here every year. More than 2 percent of adult Latinos may be infected, and with 35 million Hispanics in the U.S., the number of cases could be in the tens of thousands. The paper is available at: <http://www.plosntds.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pntd.0000149>.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20071226/hl\\_nm/diseases\\_neglected\\_usa\\_dc;\\_ylt=AjLm193A67gCfpNQ\\_4Mqzmzus0NUE](http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20071226/hl_nm/diseases_neglected_usa_dc;_ylt=AjLm193A67gCfpNQ_4Mqzmzus0NUE)

18. *December 25, All Headline News* – (International) **WHO confirms possibility of human-to-human bird flu transmission.** A ranking official at the World Health Organization (WHO) said there was a possibility of limited human-to-human bird flu transmission involving a five-member family in Pakistan. At least two of the five brothers who tested positive for the bird flu virus last month have died, leaving the organization to conclude that the disease may spread from one human to another. However, collaborative studies have yet to be conducted by a WHO team of experts to determine how the specimens may have spread; a key element in proving the claims of human-to-human transmission. Earlier reports stated that the victims were brothers. Of the five, one was identified as a veterinarian involved in slaughtering poultry infected with the avian influenza.

Source: <http://www.allheadlinenews.com/articles/7009542561>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

19. *December 26, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Fire guts small Kentucky county courthouse.** An early morning fire gutted a small courthouse in western Kentucky on Wednesday, a county official said. The building was almost destroyed, with only the outer brick walls still standing, said the county's judge-executive. The one-story courthouse housed about two dozen employees, who will be moved to temporary offices.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5io1mA1750Jl2qG1tECyhRIzahEvQD8TP6O200>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

20. *December 26, Curry County Reporter* – (Oregon) **False alarm sent Oregon counties into evacuation.** Curry County residents got a rude wakeup call early Wednesday morning when an earthquake occurred off the Aleutian Islands, prompting the National Weather Service to issue a preliminary tsunami warning for Alaska. The message reverberated down the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and northern California. Yet, after the message was delivered to the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM), there was miscommunication between the counties and state officials. The Curry County Sheriff described the initial confusion late Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning. He received a "call down" from an OEM dispatcher, who read the four-page bulletin from the National Weather Service. "At nearly the same time Coos County and Curry County are asking, 'Is this a warning?' And she says, 'Yes it is, evacuate,'" said the sheriff. "Apparently, this is the second time this glitch has happened." The director of operations for OEM had just a slightly different take on Wednesday's events. "When Curry County asked, 'Should people move to higher ground,' the dispatcher said 'Affirmative,' and read again, 'Persons in low-lying coastal areas should be alert to instructions from local emergency officials and persons on the beach should move to higher ground if in a warned area,'" she said. "It was never given as a warning. It was only given out as a tsunami warning to Alaska, however there was an evaluation put in by the National Weather Service," she said. Thus, an initial tsunami warning for Alaska was interpreted as a warning for the coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California. She reaffirmed her disbelief in the format of the National Weather Service bulletin. "Alarms went off, and a small miscommunication becomes not so small. There's an enormous amount of information shoved into four pages, where just two and a half lines belong to Oregon."

Source: [http://www.currycountyreporter.com/news/story.cfm?story\\_no=3214](http://www.currycountyreporter.com/news/story.cfm?story_no=3214)

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## Information Technology

21. *December 26, Computerworld* – (National) **Storm botnet drops strippers, switches to New Year's greeting.** Just a day after unleashing spam featuring Christmas strippers, the Storm botnet switched gears yesterday and began duping users into infecting their own PCs by bombarding them with messages touting the new year, said security researchers. According to U.K.-based Prevx Ltd. and Symantec Corp. in Cupertino, California, the botnet of Storm Trojan-compromised computers started sending spam with subject headings such as "Happy 2008!" and "Happy New Year!" late on Christmas Day. The messages try to persuade recipients to steer for the Uhavepostcard.com Web site to download and install a file tagged "happy2008.exe," said researchers at both firms. However, the file is actually a new variant of the Storm Trojan. A Prevx representative reported that the company had seen two general variants by early Wednesday. "The first has been online for about 10 hours, and we've seen 166 different repacked versions of it," he said in a company blog. The Storm code has been repacked every few minutes using a polymorphic-like technique since Monday, when the botnet started spreading stripper spam. Frequent repacking is a trick malware authors use to deceive signature-based antivirus software. The Storm botnet's herders are also using fast-flux DNS (Domain Name System) tactics to keep the Uhavepostcard.com site operational, said Symantec. Fast flux, which the Storm botnet did not originate but has often used, is another antisecurity strategy; it involves rapidly registering and de-registering addresses as part of the address list for either a single DNS server or an entire DNS zone. In both cases, the strategy masks the IP address of the malware site by hiding it behind an ever-changing array of compromised machines acting as proxies. The notorious Russian Business Network malware hosting network has become infamous for using fast flux to hide the Internet location of its servers, making it difficult for security researchers, Internet service providers or law enforcement officials to track the group's cybercrimes.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9054119&intsrc=hm\\_list](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9054119&intsrc=hm_list)

22. *December 26, CommwebNews.com* – (International) **Profile of computer hackers changing.** Most people involved in computer crimes are nameless and faceless to the organizations they attack, with the obvious exception of insiders. A few become known as a consequence of getting caught. But what is notable about these young men and other cybercriminals is not so much their identities as their community. "I don't think the hacker is a loner anymore," said a senior security researcher at SecureWorks. "People that author malware feel like they have their own community now, their own social circles. They have their own social networks." Cybercriminals today have plenty of support for their attacks and scams. They can buy automated attack kits or information about undiscovered exploits. They can rent botnets -- groups of compromised computers -- to spam, steal personal data, or conduct denial-of-service attacks. Their questions about breaking into other people's computers can be answered through IRC chats or Web forums. They are part of a thriving underground economy that is expected to grow in 2008. And as cybercrime becomes an even bigger business,

the profile of the cybercriminals is broadening beyond young men with computer skills. The researcher said cybercriminals still appear to be predominantly male, “but we see a lot more women and girls involved in hacking.” One explanation for that may be that malicious hacking in the name of nationalism is tolerated, or even encouraged, in some parts of the world. “I’ve been really amazed at the way people defend their actions,” the SecureWorks researcher continued, “I’ve had people argue that it’s not a bad thing.” He recounted an article he had translated from a small-town Russian newspaper that lauded two local hackers for sticking it to “those Capitalists.” Russian nationalism appears to be the motivation behind the massive distributed denial-of-service attack that hit Estonia in April. Attacks traced to China are also often attributed to nationalism. But more often than not, the real motivation is money.

Source: <http://www.simon-net.com/online/The-Latest-for-Security-Executives/Profile-of-computer-hackers-changing/13678SIW305>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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## Communications Sector

23. *December 26, BetaNews* – (International) **Russia launches GPS-like satellites on Christmas Day.** While most nations sat practically still during the traditional late December lull, Russia sent the rest of the world a present on Christmas Day by shooting the last three of its GPS (Global Position System)-compatible GLONASS (Global Navigation Satellite System) satellites into space. Although the 24 satellites in the GLONASS system will be used mostly by the Russians for military tracking, GLONASS is supposedly interoperable with the United States’ GPS -- a navigational and mapping system which is utilized heavily for both military and civilian purposes -- and the still emerging Galileo system of the European Union. With the expansion of GLONASS, the Russians want to boost the high tech sector of their economy, too -- and it looks as though they will add other civilian applications, as well. GLONASS already works over most of Russia, providing an instant fix of position once the satellites are located. Russia’s plans call for global coverage by the end of 2009, after all 28 satellites in the system are fully functional. GLONASS replaces Tsikada, a previous satellite system launched back in the days of the former Soviet Union. Tsikada took from one to two hours to calculate a position. GLONASS encountered delays with the floundering of the Russian economy during the late 1990s. But with abundant new government funding, it is now expected to be fully ready ahead of Europe’s Galileo. According to Russian officials, GLONASS will be used mostly alongside the U.S. GPS system. The U.S. GPS system, however, can be switched off for civilian subscribers by the U.S. government. The U.S. did just that during recent military exercises in Iraq, for example. The ground control segment of GLONASS is reportedly located entirely within the

territory of the former Soviet Union.

Source:

[http://www.betanews.com/article/Russia\\_launches\\_GPSlike\\_satellites\\_on\\_Christmas\\_Day/1198685121](http://www.betanews.com/article/Russia_launches_GPSlike_satellites_on_Christmas_Day/1198685121)

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

24. *December 25, Associated Press* – (National) **Stadium security worries experts.** While professional leagues and NASCAR appear to be taking security seriously, officials worry not enough is being done at college sports events. Those contacted about the issue believe it is only a matter of time before another domestic or international terrorist attack targets a sports event. This time of year is especially worrisome because of all the high-profile games during bowl season. The head of Homeland Security's protective security coordination division said stadiums and arenas are "a concern, something that we want to pay attention to. Why? Because we've seen attacks overseas in resorts, hotels and arenas, so obviously while al-Qaida and the terrorists have attempted to hit hard targets like refineries, soft targets and commercial facilities become more of a target of opportunity." Researchers at the University of Southern Mississippi's Center for Spectator Sports Security Management have discovered that most schools have never conducted an emergency evacuation drill or a threat assessment.

Source:

<http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/2007/more/12/25/bc.stadiumsecurity.ap/index.html>

25. *December 25, WHIO 7 Dayton* – (Ohio) **Bomb threat at theater in Huber Heights.** Huber Heights police said a man called in a bomb threat to the Showcase from a payphone inside the theater at about 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday. The management at Showcase Cinemas instructed police to evacuate all 700 people that were inside the building at the time. No one was injured. Police said they found nothing suspicious.

Source: <http://www.whiotv.com/news/14922581/detail.html>

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

26. *December 25, Associated Press* – (Arizona) **Arizona monument planning partial off-road vehicle ban.** Off-road vehicles will be banned on the northern third of the Sonoran Desert National Monument early in 2008 because of extensive environmental damage caused by reckless riders, federal officials say. Riders who have ignored postings and other restrictions, taking their three- or four-wheelers and dirt bikes off designated roads have carved new trails and mangled often-fragile vegetation. The intent of a two- to three-year closure is to restore ripped-up soils, improve the habitat, educate the general community and users in particular, and "have people be more responsible as far as using public lands," the program field manager said.

Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/nation/20071225-0801-wst-off-roadoff-limits.html>

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## **Dams Sector**

27. *December 26, Belleville News-Democrat* – (Illinois) **Region seeks to improve safety of aging levees protecting metro-east.** In Illinois, local leaders hope that their congressman can get fellow federal lawmakers to approve an amendment to the Water Resources Development Act to give the region an extra four or five years to devise a plan to pay for and complete federally-required repairs. The amendment would place levee repairs in Madison, St. Clair and Monroe counties on the same schedule as levee districts in Missouri. The Missouri levees are not scheduled for review until 2012 because they are administered by a different Federal Emergency Management Agency office. The federal government's current top-to-bottom review of levees in the metro-east has touched off intense discussions among leaders in all three counties on how to repair the levees and where to find the required dollars. Nearly all the American Bottoms region would be declared a flood hazard on preliminary FEMA maps as early as March unless an immediate, large-scale effort is put in place, according to the report. Source: <http://www.bnd.com/homepage/story/211652.html>
28. *December 25, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Officials worried about future of western Kentucky dam.** The Rochester dam on the Green River has been eroding for years, leaving officials worried about the water supply for 46,000 people in western Kentucky. The Butler County judge-executive said heavy rain, which washed debris down the river, could put too much pressure on the dam and cause it to break. That would flush out the pool of water it holds to serve Butler, Muhlenberg, and Ohio counties. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 2004 recommended that the locks at the dam be filled with rock and concrete, however federal funding for that proposal has not been appropriated. The dam has eroded to the point that, the pool of available water has dropped several feet during the recent droughts because of leaks and no falling water to replace it. The Corps of Engineers did not see that during its review, the judge-executive said. "They really didn't look at the structure of the dam itself," he said. If the dam busts, there would probably be little property damage, but, it would take nearly a year to provide a temporary water source to the residents served by the water. Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/471/story/268152.html>

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